



# COMMANDO

Any Time Any Place

Vol. 52, Issue 19

16th Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

May 14, 2004



Courtesy photo

Base members participated in the basewide Motorcycle Safety Rally that kicked off the 101 Critical Days of Summer Campaign last year. This year the rally is scheduled for May 21.

## 101 Critical Days of Summer Campaign kicks-off

By BJ Prevett  
16th SOW Safety Office

The 101 Critical Days of summer are fast approaching and the campaign begins May 28 at 4 p.m. and ends Sept. 6 at midnight.

During this period last year, Hurlburt Field experienced five off-duty mishaps that resulted in 41 lost duty days. Typically, causal factors are lack of good judgment and self-discipline. Everyone must take a moment to use good off-duty risk management to prevent hurting others or themselves.

"People must remain attentive, use common sense and provide education and guidance to those who exhibit poor judgment, show a lack of self-discipline, or are observed displaying unsafe behavior," said Col. O.G. Mannon, 16th Special Operations Wing commander. "Getting through this critical period without a fatal mishap is an achievable and realistic goal. However, everyone must be aware and look out

for their fellow team member."

"The 16th SOW is enjoying another great year of protecting the wing's most valuable resource, our people," the commander said. "We must continue this positive trend and think safety 101 percent of the time."

Unfortunately, motorcycle fatalities within the Air Force continue to plague everyone. With this in mind, the 16th SOW will kickoff this year's 101 Critical Days of Summer Campaign May 21 at 10:30 a.m., when all Hurlburt Field motorcycle operators are invited to join together for a safety briefing at the motorcycle rider training pad prior to a ride around the installation. Everyone will then have the opportunity to speak with local area motorcycle vendors who'll be displaying their products.

Although motorcycle safety is our primary focus for the kickoff, other activities are planned during the

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## Base exceeds AFAF goal

By Tech. Sgt. Andre Nicholson  
Public Affairs

Hurlburt Field ended its six-week long Air Force Assistance Fund campaign April 9 and raised \$124,244, which is 112 percent of the base goal.

The campaign titled, "A Commitment to Caring" started March 1 and the base had an overall goal of \$110,667.

"I'm extremely proud of the contributions team Hurlburt made toward the Air Force Assistance Fund this year," said Col. O.G. Mannon, 16th Special Operations Wing commander. "Our volunteers and contributors ensured we exceeded this year's goal, assisting the AFAF in its critical role of supporting Airmen and families in need. Thanks to each of you for your graciousness in contributing to this worthy cause."

Colonel Mannon credited the successful campaign to the hard work and diligence of the base representatives and the installation project officer – 1st Lt. Nicole Marshall, 16th Mission Support Squadron.

"As the project officer, it's been great working with all the volunteers," Lieutenant Marshall said. "I really appreciate the time and effort they put into the campaign and most importantly the people who donated to these very worthy organizations that depend greatly on AFAF each year."

AFAF was established in order to provide assistance to the Air Force family

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### News



#### Revving up for ride

Base motorcycle club prepares for D.C. ride

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### Sports



#### Intramural softball

16th CES team 2 defeats 16th MSS 9-8

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### Feature



#### Copilot awarded DFC

4th SOS Copilot receives medal on first combat mission

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### Weather

#### Weekend forecast

**Today** – isolated showers, High 83 Low 69

**Saturday** – isolated showers, High 86 Low 67

**Sunday** – isolated showers, High 84 Low 66

www.hurlburt.af.mil/milonly/weather/5day





## Open Line

The Commander's Open Line is your direct line to me for questions or suggestions about subjects of concern to the Hurlburt Field community. I really appreciate your feedback.

To receive a response, leave your name, unit and telephone number. Open lines of general interest will be printed in the

**COMMANDO.** I'll answer the others by letter or phone call. Remember, the quickest and most efficient way to resolve a problem is to talk directly to the agency responsible. This gives them an opportunity to help you and perhaps improve their process.

However, if you're not satisfied with the answer you receive, feel free to give me a call at 884-OPEN (6736), or e-mail your concerns to [commando@hurlburt.af.mil](mailto:commando@hurlburt.af.mil).



**Col. O.G. Mannon**

# Paying tribute to World War II memorial

**By Maj. Jeff Decker**

*379th Equipment Maintenance Squadron*

**SOUTHWEST ASIA** – The recent opening of the National World War II Memorial in Washington D.C. and its dedication this Memorial Day are highlighting the service of a generation who stood up to protect our nation, fought tyranny and freed an oppressed European continent 60 years ago.

We're now in a conflict as arduous and noble as the struggle fought by our great grandparents, grandparents and older aunts and uncles, a fight our secretary of defense believes "is the most important tasking the U.S. military has been handed since the second world war." So it's fitting to recognize a previous group of Americans with whom we share a heritage of duty and sacrifice.

Approximately 16 million Americans served in the Armed Forces during World War II, performing their duty across the entire globe. Many of us have visited the European or Pacific battlefields while stationed overseas or at least seen "Saving Private Ryan" or the "Band of Brothers" mini-series. Now with this new memorial, 290 million Americans and countless others from different countries can visualize the enormity of World War II. Of the Americans who did serve during the war, more than 400,000 didn't return home.

A single wall within the memorial park is adorned with 4,000 gold stars; each star represents 100 Americans who died during the three and half years of fighting, a poignant reminder of the tremendous sacrifice felt across big cities, small communities and the farms of

rural America.

World War II was the defining moment of the 20th Century. This memorial now stands in our nation's capital to thank those who served from the deserts of North Africa to the islands of the Pacific and across the European mainland, when America faced a determined enemy and a world threatened by totalitarian states. It's also a powerful symbol to our fellow citizens and those who wear the uniform today that we too are engaged with a resolute adversary and a world facing the dangers of global terrorism; a war we must win to protect our homeland and our way of life.

You're following in the footsteps of Americans who answered the call on their watch. Now it's time for us to do the same. Remember that when you see the National World War II Memorial. **(AFPN)**

# Congress, nation designate military appreciation month

**By Gene Harper**

*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** – Both chambers of the U.S. Congress have adopted a resolution calling for Americans to recognize and honor U.S. service members during May's National Military Appreciation Month.

Virginia Rep. Tom Davis, along with 16 co-sponsors, introduced Concurrent Resolution No. 328 in the House in November. The Senate agreed to it without amendment and by unanimous consent April 26.

The resolution states that the House, with the Senate concurring, "supports the goals and objectives of a National Military Appreciation Month."

It also "urges the president to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States, localities, organizations and media to annually observe with appropriate ceremonies and activities."

The resolution also urges the White House Commission on Remembrance to "work to support the goals and objectives" of the month.

The Senate first passed a resolution in 1999 designating National Military Appreciation Month. That declaration summoned U.S. citizens to observe the month "in a symbol of unity...to honor the current and former members of the armed forces, including those who have died in the pursuit of freedom and peace."

Traditionally, May has focused on the military in many ways. For example, Public Service Recognition Week, celebrated the first full Monday through Sunday in May since 1985, recognizes the roles of public servants, including the military, at local, state, regional and federal levels.

As a part of the week, communities across America showcase military equipment and service members from U.S. installations.

The largest event takes place on Washington's National Mall, where more than 100 federal agencies, including the military services, put their activities, people and equipment on public display. This year's mall event was May 6 to 9.

Armed Forces Day, created in 1949, is an annual event held on the third Saturday in May, with activities at U.S. military bases worldwide. This year's celebration is Saturday.

The month culminates with Memorial Day, a federal holiday on the last Monday in May. The day, dating from the Civil War era, traditionally has marked recognition of those who have died in service to the nation. Each year on Memorial Day, the White House Commission on Remembrance promotes one minute of silence at 3 p.m. local time to honor the military's fallen comrades and to pay tribute to the sacrifices by the nation's service members and veterans. **(AFPN)**

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### Production

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 16th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs Office. All photographs are U.S. Air Force photography unless otherwise indicated. The COMMANDO staff may include or exclude articles based upon the news value determined by the staff, impact on the wing's mission, and the space allotted for editorial content by the publisher.

### Submitting articles

The deadline for submissions to the COMMANDO is 4 p.m. Wednesday, the week prior to publication. Articles may be submitted on IBM format computer disk or via electronic mail. Non-electronic submissions must be typed, double-spaced and all submissions must include the name and telephone number of a person to call for questions.

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## DUI Tracker

**May 7- May 13: 0 DUIs**

**This year: 20**

**DUIs for 2003: 54**

**Last DUI: 16th Maintenance**

**Squadron**

**Airmen Against Drunk Driving**

**Don't Drink and Drive. Call 884-8844**

**Potential saves this year: 310**

**16th OG .....88**

**16th MSG ....84**

**16th MXG ....53**

**16th MDG ....88**

As of Feb. 15, individual groups get a down day for 60 consecutive days without a DUI. Totals are current as of May 13.

Congratulations to the 16th MDG, 16th MSG, 16th OG and 16th SOW staff agencies for more than 60 days without receiving a DUI.



## 'Bear-y' nice

Tech. Sgt. Diane Thomas, 16th Mission Support Squadron, Airman 1st Class Daniel Marchick (middle), and 1st Lt. Nick Millett, both from 16th Special Operations Squadron, prepare to distribute gifts to spouses of 16th SOS at the family support center in celebration of Spouse Appreciation Day, May 7.

Photo by Janis Wood

## AFSOC secretary retires after 36 years

Photo by Senior Aiman Ebony Pierre

Air Force Special Operations Command commander's secretary Judy Herriman, retired April 2 after more than 36 years of service.

Ms. Herriman began her civil service career as a GS-3 in 1967.

During her AFSOC career, Ms. Herriman became known as the secretary of the "front office" at Headquarters Air Force Special Operations Command.

She first arrived at Hurlburt Field in 1987, when the 23rd Air Force transitioned from Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

During her time here, she's worked for seven AFSOC commanders, and 12 vice commanders.

Retired Maj. Gen. Robert Patterson, the 23rd Air Force commander and then first AFSOC commander, presided over her retirement ceremony held at the Hurlburt Field Air Park.

Ms. Judy Herriman received an Exemplary Service Medal from General Patterson.



# Motorcyclists ride to nation's capitol to pay respects to war veteran's memorial

By Tech. Sgt. Andre Nicholson  
Public Affairs

Members of Hurlburt Field's newly formed motorcycle club will roll into Washington D.C., in honor of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Wall May 30.

The Sentinels of Freedom, which is the name of the club, is scheduled to depart the base May 26 and will make pre-routed stops along the four-day trip before reaching their final destination.

This is the base's first year having a motorcycle club and its first year participating in the ride.

The ride, which is conducted annually, gathered approximately 300,000 motorcycle enthusiasts last year and Hurlburt Field riders intend to add to that number while carrying out the Chief of Staff of the Air Force's vision of motorcycle safety.

Hurlburt's motorcycle club is one of the first to be set up Air Force wide under the direction of Gen. John Jumper, CSAF.

The Motorcycle Mentorship Concept of Operations is the vision of General Jumper, who was concerned with the high number of accidents and fatalities involving motorcycle riders.

Ten bases are testing the program with Air Force Special Operations Command leading the way, with Hurlburt Field and Moody AFB, Ga., taking active roles in implementing clubs on base.

Master Sgt. Guy Alexander, 16th Special Operations Wing Safety Office, who's also the Sentinels of

Freedom club president, has been involved with the program from the beginning.

"I'd like our club to instill a sense of camaraderie amongst the riders," Sergeant Alexander said. "I'm hoping it will pull our people together and allow some of the more experienced riders to share their knowledge with the newer riders. Knowledge is the key to motorcycle safety. Sometimes people don't readily see what's potentially dangerous. This is where mentorship has its place."

The purpose of the club is to establish and maintain a spirit of camaraderie and esprit de corps that will enhance the prestige and riding experience of all motorcycle riders, encourage on-going rider education and skills development, increase public awareness and reduce motorcycle mishaps.

"We're taking every precaution to make sure it's a safe ride and a great experience for all riders who want to participate," Sergeant Alexander said.

The ride to D.C. is open to all Department of Defense cardholders to include any sister service components. Members should be aware that lodging will primarily be camping at military installations on the ride there and campgrounds on the way back through the Blue Ridge Mountains, Sergeant Alexander explained.

People should register by noon



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Andre Nicholson

**Hurlburt Field Sentinels of Freedom members Capt. Teresa Lord, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron (left), and Staff Sgt. Timothy Robinson, 46th Maintenance Group, prepare for a ride.**

Monday with Capt. Teresa Lord, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron by e-mailing [teresa.lord@hurlburt.af.mil](mailto:teresa.lord@hurlburt.af.mil). Cost is \$25 for E-1 to E-4; and \$50 for E-5 and higher. The cost is to help offset the support vehicles, which will follow the riders on the trip.

Eight days of permissive temporary duty have been approved for all active-duty (to include active-duty, Reservists) club members. Non-club members and civilians are invited, but must be on leave to participate. Unit commanders are the approval authority for permissive TDY orders.

For more information, e-mail: [guy.alexander@hurlburt.af.mil](mailto:guy.alexander@hurlburt.af.mil), [teresa.lord@hurlburt.af.mil](mailto:teresa.lord@hurlburt.af.mil), [george.simmons@hurlburt.af.mil](mailto:george.simmons@hurlburt.af.mil) or [robert.merrill@hurlburt.af.mil](mailto:robert.merrill@hurlburt.af.mil).



# Dozens of Airmen face retraining into new Air Force specialties

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** – Many Airmen have taken their careers in their own hands by volunteering to change career fields or separate under the initial phase of the Air Force's FY04 Noncommissioned Officer Retraining Program.

As part of the program's Phase II, Air Force officials have notified 88 Airmen selected as most vulnerable to retrain and asked them to submit their choices of shortage career fields they would most like to retrain into.

If they don't voluntarily apply for retraining by May 24, those without approved retraining or special duty assignments will have another Air Force specialty chosen for them by AFPC, and their class date scheduled by June 7, said Chief Master Sgt. Alvin Diaz, chief of the skills management branch here.

"This phase of the retraining program is necessary to help meet the needs of the Air Force by putting airmen where they are needed most."

Under Phase II, not everyone is guaranteed his or her first choice. Major commands continue to accept volunteer applications and personnel officials encourage all eligible NCOs to also consider special duty assignments that need to be filled such as recruiting jobs, military training instructors, first sergeant duty or professional military education

instructor, officials said. However, the member must be approved prior to the May 24 deadline.

"There's still time for those who have been identified for possible retraining to volunteer," said Chief Diaz.

"It's up to each Airman, but if it were me, I'd think having control over my career would be a priority and help reduce the stress of not knowing whether or not I will get that notification asking me to make a selection – I'd volunteer."

The retraining program is designed to help balance the enlisted force by moving NCOs in specialties with surpluses to those with shortages, said Chief Diaz.

"We will work with those who have been selected for retraining, as we would any retraining case, in order to make the transition as smooth as possible for the Airman and his or her family while still meeting the needs of the Air Force," said Tech. Sgt. Derek Hughes, noncommissioned officer in charge of Air Force retraining here.

Vulnerability listings by grade and Air Force specialty code are posted on the Web and will be updated on the Air Force Personnel Center's Web site at <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/enlskills/Retraining/retraining.htm>.

For more information about the program, contact the local military personnel flight. **(AFPC)**

# SECAF approves medal for tornado relief efforts

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** – Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche has approved award of the Humanitarian Service medal to personnel who distinguished themselves by meritorious participation in tornado disaster relief operations to the civilian community surrounding Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

To qualify for the award, the individual must have been assigned or attached to a unit providing "hands on" humanitarian relief actions within the community surrounding Columbus A.F.B., during Nov. 10 - 13, 2002. The individual also must have been physically present within the community surrounding the disaster area, and either contributed directly or influenced relief efforts.

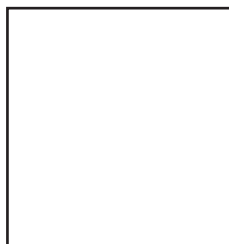
Eligible personnel must provide proof of entitlement for the award to their servicing military personnel flight. Supporting documentation may consist of temporary duty orders, a letter of appreciation, an enlisted or officer performance report reflecting participation, a decoration citation, or other official document which verifies the individual participated in relief efforts.

Specifically excluded from eligibility are members who were present for duty at the specified location, but didn't make a direct contribution or influence the action. The commander in charge of the operation at the site makes the final determination on direct/indirect participation. To verify individual eligibility, call either AETC/DPSMP at DSN 487-2549, or the 14th Mission Support Squadron at DSN 742-2575.

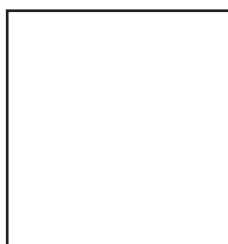
Once verified, the military personnel flight will update the individual's records. Eligibility by Army, Navy or Marine personnel is subject to authorization by their respective service. If anyone is eligible for this medal by past participation in the Tornado Disaster Relief in Columbus A.F.B. Miss., visit the military personnel flight awards and decorations office with supporting documentation. **(AFPC)**

## Look who's talking:

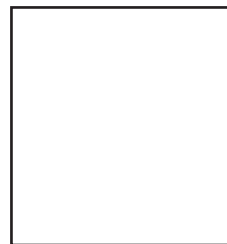
*What do you think of the new uniform?*



*"I like the new uniform. It's very comfortable and I like that it's wash and wear."*



*"I feel a great pride in the Air Force when wearing the new uniform. Women can finally have their own sizes and no ironing or boot polishing involved."*



*I like the new uniform, but I think the three-button t-shirt is a bit much, and I don't think the boots are Air Force friendly."*

## News Briefs



### AF News

#### HIV testing

Beginning June 1, all active-duty Airmen will be required to complete routine human immunodeficiency virus testing every two years. The policy, recommended by members of the Armed Forces Epidemiological Board, will also require Reserve and Guard Airmen called to active duty for 30 or more

days to have a current HIV test within two years of the date called. HIV testing identifies service members who are infected as early as possible so military health-care providers can treat them. The screening also preclude deployment overseas and other risks that may be associated with military service for infected.

HIV testing is available for all service members upon request without inquiring the reason for the test.

### Free newspapers

Service members who don't have access to the Stars and Stripes newspaper but have access to a computer, can now go online to read or download an exact replica of the paper at no charge. The free online newspaper is geared toward service members in remote locations, but any service member or family member can use the service.

Officials recommend that readers who want to print the newspaper

and read it that way use the "fit to paper" option when printing.

The site also offers free access to past newspapers for seven days.

Printed editions of the newspaper still will be delivered to service members in places like Afghanistan and Iraq, where computer access is limited.

Officials say the primary reason for the free offer is to help the newspaper fulfill its mission to get the paper out to service members.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Andre Nicholson

**First Lt. Nicole Marshall, 16th Mission Support Squadron Air Force Assistance Fund project officer receives a final donation from Master Sgt. Michael McNichols, 505th Command and Control Wing AFAF unit project officer.**

### ***AFAF, Continued from Page 1***

(active duty, Guard, Reserve, retirees and their family members) in three major areas of need – emergency assistance grants and zero interest loans, education grants and community programs.

Assistance is made through four charitable organizations – the Air Force Aid Society, the Gen. and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation, the Air Force Enlisted Foundation and the Air Force Village Foundation.

This is the 30th year for AFAF and the Air Force's overall goal toward the campaign, which ends May 9, is more than \$5 million.

### ***SUMMER, Continued from Page 1***

101 critical days that address local summer hazardous issues.

Strong emphasis will continue to be placed on the DUI program. Monthly flyers will be sent to each unit to update their DUI Status/Safety boards.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary power squadron will conduct free boat safety inspections and present briefings on Florida laws prohibiting drinking while operating watercraft at the Soundside parking lot May 21. Our security forces will conduct random seatbelt inspections throughout the summer safety campaign to encourage a 100 percent usage rate.

Appropriate seasonal flyers will also be provided to units and posted on the Hurlburt Intranet safety link to enhance unit safety programs.

"I strongly solicit your support for these critical programs as we work together to pull the wing safely through these 101 days of increased hazards," Colonel Mannon said. "Have fun and make safety your personal priority."



**Buckle-up:**  
*seatbelts  
save lives*

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**COMM/NEW HOME**  
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**3 X 10.00**



**SNCO course participants listen to words of encouragement provided by facilitator Chief Master Sgt. James Duval. Chief Duval received a loud applause following his presentation.**

## *SNCO course goes back to basics*

**Story and photo by Vanessa Adame**  
*Public Affairs*

A base professional military education course that's recently reverted from the digital age to the fundamentals of teaching is setting a precedent in leadership classes Air Force wide.

More than a year ago, Hurlburt SNCO Professional Development Seminar attendees crammed the base theatre looking up to a projection screen reflecting advice on how to become a better SNCO.

"It was a very boring environment," said Master Sgt. Andrew Hollis, 16th Special Operations Wing career advisor and seminar coordinator. Speakers usually led the course by reading from slides projected onto the screen making for a monotonous environment.

"There was little opportunity to appreciate the knowledge and experience attendees already had."

After a course evaluation, Sergeant Hollis determined there was a need for change. He soon restructured the three-day seminar into a more personable approach. The new course replaced informal lectures with actual discussions, narrowed class size to approximately 35 students and eliminated Power Point presentations and a rigid course design.

"It became like night and day," Sergeant Hollis said of the new approach.

The new format quickly became a success, drawing positive feedback from participants and their supervisors even months after taking the class.

Master Sgt. William Johnson, 16th Contracting Squadron, attended the three-day seminar May 4-6, and was genuinely impressed with the course.

"I've attended numerous PME courses as well as professional and college courses, but this is the first one designed to integrate student participation," he said. "I actually had the opportunity to communicate with chiefs, first sergeants, and superintendents about issues that directly affect our troops and received solutions to guide them in the right direction."

The seminar is designed into sections with about a dozen trained facilitators discussing topics such as team building, confronting enlisted issues, career counseling, physical fitness and more.

As for the secret to the course's success, Sergeant Hollis explains it's simply teaching for the heart instead of the head.

"The main thing I took from the course is a sense of pride being a SNCO and knowing that I have the capability and resources to take care of my troops," Sergeant Johnson said.

The development seminar is already setting a precedent among other military installations; several bases have already adopted the style to similar courses.

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# Asian culture: *Exploring the history of chopsticks*

Courtesy of APAH committee

In much of Asia, especially the so-called "rice bowl" cultures of China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam, food is usually eaten with chopsticks.

Chopsticks are two long, thin, usually tapered, pieces of wood. Bamboo is the most common material, but they can also be made from various types of wood, as well as plastic, porcelain, animal bone, ivory, metal, coral, agate, and jade.

During the Middle Ages, aristocrats often favored silver chopsticks since it was thought that silver would turn color if it came into contact with poison.

## Elegant craftsmanship

Sometimes chopsticks are quite artistic. Chopsticks can be made of

lacquered wood and covered with artwork. Truly elegant chopsticks might be made of gold and embossed in silver with Chinese calligraphy.

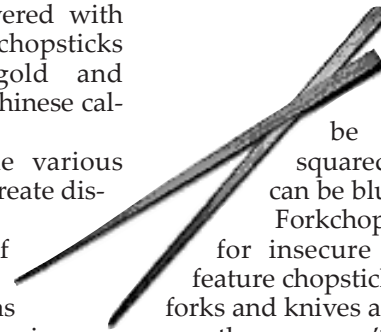
Artisans also combine various hardwoods and metal to create distinctive designs.

A child's plastic set of chopsticks might feature a cartoon character, such as Mickey Mouse, while aluminum from recycled cans might find new life as a lightweight, easy-to-clean pair of chopsticks.

## Elaborate carvings

Chopsticks may be totally smooth or carved or modeled ripples. Silver or gold pain can be used to give them a rough texture.

In Thailand, wood is often elabo-



ately carved into chopsticks. The ends of chopsticks can be rounded or squared, while the tips can be blunt or sharp.

Forkchops are chopsticks for insecure Westerners and feature chopsticks at one end and forks and knives at the other, just in case the user can't manage during the meal.

## Promoting non-violence

The Chinese have been using chopsticks for five thousand years. It is believed that people who lived during that time probably cooked their food in large pots, using twigs to remove it.

Overtime, as population grew,

people began chopping food into small pieces so it would cook more quickly.

Small morsels of food could be eaten without knives and so the twigs gradually turned into chopsticks. Some people think that the great scholar Confucius, who lived from roughly 551 to 479 B.C., influenced the development of chopsticks.

As a vegetarian, Confucius believed knives would remind people of slaughterhouses and were too violent for use at the table.

## Non-chopstick countries

Chopsticks aren't used everywhere in Asia. In India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Central Asia most people have traditionally eaten with their hands.

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5 X 7.00





Courtesy photo

Members of the 919th Civil Engineer Squadron and Navy Seabees prepare lumber using a Navy portable sawmill. The Air Force and Navy teams worked on several construction projects during the 919th CES deployment to Croatia.

## Duke teams with Navy Seebees

By Sandra Henry

919th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs

**DUKE FIELD, Fla.** – Not wind, snow or winter storms could keep Airmen from the 919th Special Operations Wing from completing their construction projects in Croatia this spring.

Divided into two rotations, more than 40 Airmen from the 919th Civil Engineer Squadron construction team Prime Base Engineer Emergency Forces, better known as Prime Beef, completed a deployment for training to Slunj, Croatia.

Chief Master Sgt. Luther Mitchell, project manager for the 919th CES team, and Maj. Richard Ash, 919th CES commander, were among the squadron members who deployed. Chief Mitchell and two other squadron members were in country for the entire deployment, which began March 9.

The training was the Air Force Reserve Command's first joint service construction project with Navy Seabees, most of them from the 74th Navy Mobile Construction Battalion, an active duty unit at Gulfport, Miss., said Chief Mitchell. Deployed members were tasked to refurbish and modernize two large log cabin style barracks, build a 22 stall latrine facility from the ground up and resurface several miles of gravel.

The construction projects were part of the first phase of Adriatic Phiblex '04, a training exercise directed by the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The Prime Beef Airmen and Seabees worked with the Croatian military and civil service in getting the pre-exercise construction completed so facilities could support and house a team of multinational engineers who will complete other humanitarian projects as part of the exercises' second phase. That phase includes bridge building, road construction and water main replacement.

"The deployment provided a great opportunity for us to sharpen our skills in an austere work environment and build good relations with the Seabees and the people of Croatia," said Chief Mitchell.

"Our team rolled in about four weeks into the construction and made an immediate impact because of the many years of experience honed by construction deployments of our group dating back to Vietnam," said the chief.

"What the Seabees lacked in experience was more than made up by their youth, enthusiasm, military bearing and willingness to see the project completed," said the chief. "They were more than eager to learn from the more experienced Reserve craftsmen."

After five weeks of working together, the teams completely rebuilt and refurbished two 150-person barracks, improved 8 miles of roadway, and nearly completed a supporting shower and bath facility.

"We are very pleased with the amount of work the American military is doing. It will serve us for many years," said Col. Hrvoje Papst, the Croatian base commander. (AFSOC NFNS)

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## This week in history

**May 10, 1911** - Lt. G.E.M. Kelly became the second Army officer killed in an airplane.

**May 11, 1918** - Allied Expeditionary Force received a DH-4, its first American-made airplane.

**May 15, 1918** - The government's first permanent airmail route inaugurated by Army pilots.

**May 11, 1964** - The XB-70 Valkyrie, built by North American Aviation, rolls out at Palmdale, Calif. Designed to fly three times the speed of sound and at altitudes above 70,000 feet, the 275-ton aircraft measures 185 feet in length and 105 feet in wing span.

**May 10, 1972** - Operation Linebacker begins during the Vietnam War.

## *Customs and courtesies*

### **Military Etiquette**

Etiquette is defined as common, everyday courtesy. The military world, like the civilian world, functions more smoothly and pleasantly when members practice good manners.

■ One of the most valuable habits anyone can develop is to be on time. Granted, there are times when a person cannot avoid being late. If this happens, it is best to call ahead to let the people know you'll be late or to reschedule the appointment. Do not keep others waiting.

■ Use proper telephone etiquette. Always be polite and identify yourself and your organization. When an individual is not available to take a call, ask: "May I take a message?" or "Is there something I may help you with?" If a call is to be returned, write down the individual's name, organization, telephone number, the message, and then pass this information along to the intended recipient.

■ In general, use common sense and be considerate of other people and insist your subordinates do the same.

# Never too young to make a difference

By 1st Lt. Gabe Johnson

Public Affairs

After spending an entire day in and out of his chemical warfare gear at a forward-deployed location, a copilot and his fellow AC-130U Gunship crewmembers saddled up for their first combat sortie in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

First Lieutenant Miller had been a copilot with the 4th Special Operations Squadron for only three months prior to that day, and he was already embarking on his first combat mission – one that would earn him the Distinguished Flying Cross.

On the evening of March 20, 2003 – the first night of the war – through bad weather and heavy defenses, the 25-year-old copilot helped capture Iraq's Al Faw peninsula and subsequent oil fields as part of the air component to a large Special Operations package. The objective was to prevent Iraqi forces from sabotaging the country's oil resources.

"When he deployed he was brand new to flying and only had about 100 flying hours in the aircraft," said Maj. Bill Holt, the mission's aircraft commander. "The kicker is that on his first combat sortie he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. I have never heard of that happening before."

Now, at 27 and the rank of captain, he reflects on the flight that changed his life and saved numerous American lives on the first night of combat operations.

"I knew when we took off that night that

we were probably going to see fire," said Captain Miller, "but during the flight I had no time to think, 'What have I got myself into?' But afterwards, when I had a chance to reflect on it, I was very thankful that I was able to participate in that flight and thankful that we made it back all right."

As copilot, Captain Miller coordinates with the Airborne Warning and Control System and other air assets in an objective area. He also coordinates defensive maneuvers, talks to air traffic control and backs up the aircraft commander with flying duties.

"We took fire from 57mm and 37mm anti-aircraft artillery and the entire crew coordinated maneuvers to keep the aircraft out of harm's way," the captain said. "I was really glad to have Major Holt and Sergeant Ralph Courtney, the engineer, on the flight deck with me."

Captain Miller, who graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1999, was the youngest member in the crew but had been fully trained through a rigorous pilot training program that included Gunship operations at Hurlburt Field's 19th Special Operations Squadron.

"I felt reassured flying with a crew with so much experience," Captain Miller said, "and I knew I had to be at 100 percent going into it. I felt well trained having undergone instruction at the 19th SOS."

"I felt like I knew what I was

doing, but as far as actual combat, I knew that I had never seen anything like what the men and women I was flying with had seen."

As the night progressed, Special Operations Forces on the ground were securing assets when enemy positions started emerging, said Major Holt.

"We spotted vehicles and trenches all over and we worked real-time with the guys on the ground to engage," Captain Miller said, "and by sunrise the peninsula and oil depositories were completely under coalition hands."

"It was a very smooth and successful operation," said Major Holt. "Andy played an integral role in our mission, and I'd fly in combat with him any day."

"Hopefully I haven't hit my peak just yet," Captain Miller said. "I hope to get some more great flights in, and I look forward to helping out with the cause any way I can. I look forward to becoming an aircraft commander and passing on the same skills and knowledge that my aircraft commander passed on to me."



Courtesy Photo

An AC-130U Gunship flies a routine training mission over Hurlburt Field.

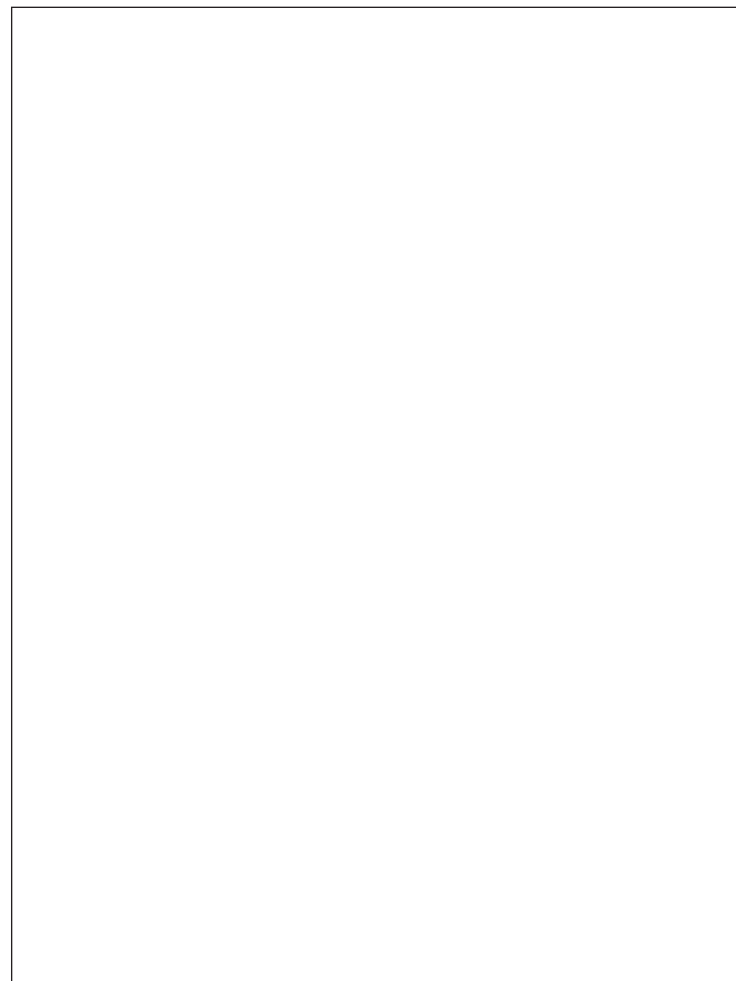


Photo by 1st Lt. Gabe Johnson

**Capt. Andy Miller, AC-130U copilot, checks instruments on a Gunship flight deck. Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his first combat sortie ever, Captain Miller and his crew averted an environmental disaster by supporting the capture of Iraq's Al Faw peninsula and subsequent oil fields as part of the air component to a large Special Operations package.**



## Community

### Records audit of personnel

The military personnel flight records section, will be conducting a records audit June 9-11. All Unit Personnel Record Groups must be returned to the records section no later than June 8 by 1 p.m. During the audit the records section will be closed and UPRGs will not be checked out, copies won't be produced, nor will the UPRGs be available for review.

### AFSA meeting

The Air Force Sergeant's Association, Chapter 567, will meet Thursday at 3 p.m. at J.R. Rockers. For more information, call Master Sgt. Mary Gowin at 884-7821 or Senior Master Sgt. William Ogden at 884-4388.

### Yard sale

The 16th Services Squadron yard sale is Saturday at the Soundside parking lot starting at 8 a.m. Military/government ID card holders can rent a table with two chairs for \$10 to sell their own items, which is based on space availability. Call outdoor recreation at 884-6939 for table rentals or the recycling center at 884-7577 for more details.

### Getaway cruises

Information, Tickets and Travel can help you "getaway" before or during Thanksgiving with two great cruises to the western Caribbean. The pre Thanksgiving cruise sails out of New Orleans for seven days from Nov. 14-21. Rates are \$545 for interior rooms, \$695 for ocean view rooms and \$845 for rooms with a balcony. The Thanksgiving Cruise sails out of Mobile, Ala., for five days from November 22-27. Rates are \$545 for ocean view rooms and \$510 for interior rooms. All cruise rates are based per person on double occupancy.

Call ITT at 884-7848/5699 or 581-0469 for more information or visit the ITT offices located in the Mini Mall.

### Dental service

The Eglin Air Force Base Dental Service is currently accepting applications for the Red Cross Volunteer Dental Assistant Training program. The training program is six months long and the next class start date is June 4. Pick up an application at the Eglin Dental Clinic or the Hurlburt Field Dental Clinic or call Master Sgt. Lugent for more information at 883-8180.

### APAH celebration

The Hurlburt Asian Pacific American Heritage Committee cordially invites the Commando community to celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage May 21, at The Soundside Club. The event will start with a social at 6 p.m., followed by a formal program with ethnic Asian Pacific performances from 7 - 9 p.m., and dance with DJ "Al" until 11:30 p.m.

The guest speaker for this event is Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo, Guam delegate. She's a member of the Armed Services Committee and was recently featured on CNN. The cost for the event is \$16 for club members and \$18 for non-club members. For more information, e-mail adonis.martinez@hurlburt.af.mil or duane.rustivo@hurlburt.af.mil.

### Operation appreciation

Officials at Lowe's Motor Speedway, Charlotte, N.C., are offering service members discounted tickets to two NASCAR events in May through its "Operation Appreciation" initiative. Events include the Nascar Nextel All-Star Challenge May 22 and the Coca-Cola 600 May 30. The normally \$76 tickets for the challenge are \$20 and the \$101 tickets for the Coca-Cola 600 are \$30.

In addition to the races, the tickets also include access to pre-race entertainment, such as a performance by the band "Live" before the All-Star Challenge. Service members who'd like to attend should call (800) 455-3267 and ask the ticket agent about the Operation Appreciation military discount.

### Lost debit or credit cards

If you lose your automated teller machine card, debit or credit card don't panic. Federal laws and bank policies limit your liability for unauthorized charges, as long as you quickly notify the bank or card issuer of the loss or theft.

If your credit card is lost or stolen and you act quickly, you won't be out much money. If you notify the card issuer within a reasonable time after you discover the loss or theft, usually 30 days, you're not responsible for any charges made after the notification. For charges made before the notification, you'll be liable for only \$50. If you don't notify the card issuer within a reasonable time, you may be on the hook for all unauthorized charges made before notification.

With ATM or debit cards you must act even quicker than with credit cards in order to avoid full liability when your card is lost or stolen. Check with your bank on your individual liability. Any questions, call Tom Snyder, 884-6100.

### Change of command

Lt. Col. Frank Fields, 15th Special Operations Squadron, will relinquish his command to Lt. Col. Robert Toth at 9 a.m. June 1 at the 15th Aircraft Maintenance Unit Hanger, the ceremony is open to the base.

### Change of Command

Maj. Joseph Rushlau is scheduled to assume command of the 716th Maintenance Squadron from Lt. Col. Douglas Jantzen at the Fuel Cell Hangar, Building 3087, Duke Field, May 21 at 9 a.m. For more information, call Master Sgt. Frank Horne at 883-6112.

### AFSOC picnic

The Air Force Special Operations Command will host its annual picnic May 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Community Park. The Community Park parking lot and entrance to the child development center will be blocked for the function. Event goers are encouraged to park at the base chapel, the base tax center, the pool or J.R. Rockers. For more information, call 2nd Lt. Jennifer Snow at 884-8756 or 1st Lt. Amber Bianchini at 884-8752.

### Clinic closure

The 16th Medical Group will close at 11 a.m. today for wing training. However, normal clinic operations will be in effect until 11 a.m. For any emergency needs, the Eglin Air Force Base emergency room will be open. Normal clinic operations will resume Monday at 7 a.m.

### Air Force TV and Radio News



To check out Air Force TV or Radio News visit: <http://af.feedroom.com> or [www.af.mil/news](http://www.af.mil/news) and click on TV or radio to find out what's happening around the Air Force.

### Hurlburt Field Chapel



**Catholic Mass**  
Saturday, 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday, 7:15 and 10 a.m.  
**Confessions:** Saturday, 4:30 to 5 p.m., or by request.  
**Youth:** 5 p.m. Sunday  
**Religious Education:** September - May

#### Protestant Services

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. (praise & worship)  
11:30 a.m. (traditional)  
12:45 p.m. (Gospel)

**Religious Education:** August - May  
Youth and Singles groups available

#### Jewish Services (882-2111)

**Sabbath services:** Friday, 7:30 p.m., Eglin Chapel Center  
**Havdallah services:** next-to-the-last Saturday of each month, 7 p.m., chapel annex

**Muslim Services (882-2111), Eglin Chapel Center**

**Jumuah:** Friday, 12:45 p.m.

**Qur'an:** Saturday, 6 p.m.

For more information, call 884-7795

## At the movies



**Prices are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Movies start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.**

#### Hurlburt Field 884-7648

**Friday - (R) The Passion of the Christ**, starring Jim Caviezel and Maia Morgenstern - Over the last 12 hours of Christ's life, he's betrayed by Judas Iscariot and condemned to death for blasphemy. Jesus is made to carry his cross up to Golgotha, where he's nailed.

**Saturday - (PG-13) Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed**, starring Sarah Michelle Gellar and Freddie Prinze Jr. - An anonymous villain wreaks mayhem on the city of Coolsville with a monster machine that re-creates classic Mystery Inc. foes. Under pressure from citizens, the gang launches an investigation into the mysterious monster outbreak that leaves Shaggy and Scooby questioning their roles in Mystery Inc.

**Sunday - (R) Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind**, starring Jim Carrey and Kate Winslet - Joel discovers that his girlfriend has had her memories of their tumultuous relationship erased. Joel attempts the same procedure, but as he recalls the good times they had, he tries to mentally overcome the procedure while he sleeps.

#### Eglin 882-1066

**Friday - (R) The Lady Killers** - starring Tom Hanks and Marlon Wayans - Goldthwait organizes a gang of double-crossing thieves to rob a riverboat Casino. They set up shop by renting a room from a little old church-going lady named Mrs. Munson. When she figures out what they're up to, the robbers decide she must be eliminated, only they underestimated her.

**Saturday - (PG-13) Jersey Girl**, starring Ben Affleck and Liv Tyler - Ollie Trinke was a smooth and successful Manhattan music publicist. But out of a job and luck, he moves back home to New Jersey. While renting his daughter a movie he meets Maya and soon he realizes you must accept who you are and what makes you happy.

**Sunday - (PG) The Prince and Me**, starring Julia Stiles and Luke Mably - Paige, a college student meets and falls in love with one of her classmates. She doesn't know is that he's actually a Danish prince, Frederick, hiding in America before having to perform his princely duties.

**Editor's note:** Movies are subject to change. Telephone numbers are provided for patrons to confirm scheduled dates.)

## Toastmasters meeting

Hurlburt Toastmasters meets Wednesdays at noon in the education center, building 90220, classroom J. Toastmasters is designed to help individuals develop and improve their speaking, listening and leadership skills through a positive learning environment.

For more information, call Marty Mears at 884-9130 or e-mail [marty.mears@hurlburt.af.mil](mailto:marty.mears@hurlburt.af.mil). More information is also available at [www.hurlburt.free-toasthost.org](http://www.hurlburt.free-toasthost.org).

## OWCC enrollment

Twelve-week summer classes begin Tuesday at Okaloosa-Walton Community College. Fast-Track classes, which are six-weeks long begin Tuesday and June 23. New and returning students may enroll through May 18 at all six OWCC locations from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday to Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Friday. Students may also enroll online.

The OWCC schedule of classes, including a series of weekend and online courses, is available at the college, area public libraries, and online at [www.owcc.edu](http://www.owcc.edu). For information, call 729-6922 or 892-8100 in Walton County.

## Motorcycle safety course

Hurlburt Field now offers the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Beginners Rider course. The two-day class is scheduled for June 15 and 16 and July 13 and 14. Space is limited to six students. This class is intended for riders with less than three months riding experience. More experienced riders can take the one day Experienced Riders Course. Motorcycle safety training is required for all active-duty military that intend to ride a motorcycle on or off-base. Training is available to anyone with access to Hurlburt Field. However, active-duty military have priority.

For more information and an up-to-date class schedule, call the 16th Special Operations Wing Safety office at 884-2614.

## MSG dining out

The 16th Mission Support Group is holding a dining out June 5 at 6 p.m. at the Emerald Coast Conference Center. Tickets are on sale now until May 28. Cost is \$15 for Airmen, \$25 for E5-E6, \$35 for E7 and above. For more information, see your squadron representative.

## Foster care session

A free foster care orientation session will be held Thursday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Learning Resource Center at Okaloosa/Walton Community College. For more information or to register, call Lucie Wade at 595-8222 Ext 108.

## Free resort stay

Vail Resorts is offering 1,000 complimentary room nights at Breckenridge and Keystone Resorts in Colorado for service members who've served in Iraq and Afghanistan in the last few months. Operation Freedom Lodging is going on now through Dec. 16. For more information, call (800) 832-3694 for Breckenridge and (800) 270-4690 for Keystone.

## Southern Illinois University

Earn your Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Technology. SIU is now registering for summer courses. Degree requirements can be completed in 16 months. Courses are offered on alternating weekends from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. For more information, call Tracy Deming at 581-9840 or e-mail at [ithurlburt@gulf.net](mailto:ithurlburt@gulf.net).

## LRS changes

The 16th Logistics Readiness Squadron is undergoing organizational changes in accordance with U.S. Air Force directives. The current distribution flight is now designated the material management flight. Also, the cargo inbound and outbound functions, which currently reside within the distribution flight, will be administratively moved to the traffic management flight. All cur-

rent function office locations and contact numbers will remain the same. The change is an attempt to streamline LRS's processes and to better serve customers.

For more information or questions, call 1st Lt. Anthony Parkinson at 884-1494 or e-mail [anthony.parkinson@hurlburt.af.mil](mailto:anthony.parkinson@hurlburt.af.mil).

## Classes

### Introduction to Special Ops

The Joint Special Operations University will be hosting an Introduction to Special Operations Course Tuesday through May 21 on Hurlburt Field. For information on seat availability call 884-4731. For more information on ISOC call Capt. James Rigsbee at 884-6861.

### HAWC classes

To reserve a seat in the following health and wellness center classes, call 884-4292. All classes are free of charge and held in Building 90232.

**Healthy Living Workshop** - Tuesday, and Thursday; 8:30 a.m.

**Body Composition Improvement Program** - Tuesday, 1 p.m.

**Body Composition Improvement Program Follow-up** - Wednesday, 1 p.m.

**Total Fitness Enhancement** - Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.

**Eating Heart Healthy** - Thursday, 3:30 p.m.

**Healthy Weight 4 Kids** - Wednesday, 3:30 p.m.

### FSC classes

For more information on the following family support center classes, call 884-5441.

**Employment Orientation** - Monday, 10 a.m.

**Sponsorship Training** - Monday, 1 p.m.

**Moms, Pops and Tots** - Tuesday, Wednesday; 10 a.m.

**Kids Smooth Move** - Wednesday, 4 p.m.

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# 16th CES 2 edges by 16th MSS in final inning

Story and photos by Airman James Dickens  
Public Affairs

The 16th Civil Engineer Squadron team 2 squared off against the 16th Mission Support Squadron Tuesday at the ball field behind the Aderholt Fitness Center in intramural softball and won 9-8.

Although 16th CES 2 won, the outcome and score far from told the story.

CES struck first scoring three quick runs with some long drives and nice bases running.

It didn't take the 16th MSS long to get into the swing of things and soon they were rallying back to the lead.

The MSS team didn't slow down until they had a 7-3 lead.

With the time running out CES started a rally of their own in the bottom of the 6th.

After some huge hits and a few errors com-

mitted by the MSS defenses the 16th CES 2 team had the ballgame back into a nail biter at 8-7, MSS.

When MSS finally got their turn at swinging the bat the CES defense didn't waiver. Instead they buckled down and played some good defense.

In the bottom of the 7th CES 2 had made up their mind to win the game, and they did just that.

"We stuck together as a team and concentrated on defense and getting good base hits," said Chris Ramsey, 16th CES.

With the bases loaded and the score tied at eight, Kenneth Longueuil, 16th CES, stepped up to the plate and smashed a huge hit that sealed the game, 9-8.



Davon Taylor, 16th Special Operations Wing Command Post, zooms past James Burnside, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron, and gets a nice single.



Jason Carnes, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron, smashes the ball during a game played Tuesday at the ball fields behind the Aderholt Fitness Center.

## Intramural volleyball standings

Team	Wins	Losses	Win Pct
AMXS	5	0	1.000
OSS	6	1	.857
LRS	5	1	.833
SVS	4	1	.800
CES	3	1	.750
RHS	3	3	.500
25th IOS	3	3	.500
MDG	2	2	.500
CMS	2	3	.400
COMM	2	3	.400
AFSOC	2	4	.333
SFS	1	4	.200

Standings are current as of May 12.

Volleyball games are played Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Aderholt Fitness Center.

Intramural softball games are played Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the fields behind the Aderholt Fitness Center.

For more information, call the fitness center at 884-6884.

## Sports shorts

### Family golf lessons

The "Hook-A-Family on Golf" Summer Program at Gator Lakes golf course begins June 7 and last until July 25. This fun package deal includes golf lessons for the family followed by a movie, hotdog, beverage and popcorn at 6:30 p.m. Start times for the golf lessons will be 4 p.m. for advanced golfers and 5 p.m. for beginners. The cost is \$150 for one parent and child. Each additional family member is \$50 per person. You can sign-up at the Gator Lakes pro shop. The program is limited to 80 participants. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Call Gator Lakes golf course at 881-2251 for additional information.

### Golf tournament

Gator Lakes golf course will host a Memorial Day Golf Tournament May 31. Tee times start at

7 a.m. and the format is two-man best ball. An awards party will follow with hamburgers, hot-dogs and other refreshments. It is \$30 for Hurlburt Field golf course members, \$35 for Eglin golf course members, \$40 for non-members with military/government ID cards, or \$45 for guests. Call Gator Lakes golf course at 881-2251 for registration requirements or more information.

### Summer cheerleading clinic

The Summer Cheerleading Clinic starts June 26 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Hurlburt Field Youth Center gym for children ages 6 and up. Participants will learn cheer basics, two cheers, one formation and one dance routine. The cost is \$16 per child and includes a t-shirt and certificate. Sign up at the Hurlburt Field Youth Center by June 2. For more information, call Coach

Robin Poling at 936-1444 or the youth center at 884-6355.

### Steam room renovation

The men's steam room at the Aderholt Fitness Center opens May 30.

### Super Day 2004

Super Day 2004 is scheduled for May 27. The day-long event matches up different units on base in friendly competition. For more information, call the Aderholt Fitness Center at 884-6949

### Sailing classes

Outdoor recreation is offering sailing classes Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Classes will be held at outdoor recreation, building 92473, cost is \$36. For more information, call 884-6939.